

IWANE Board Meeting Minutes
Marriott Hotel, East Windsor, CT ~ July 28, 2019

Call to Order:

The IWANE president called the board meeting to order at 5:45pm. The following board members were present: Andrea Dormady (AD); Colleen Brown (CB); Janel Milne (JM); Pat Campbell (PC); John Fitzgerald (JF); Eileen Flanagan (EF) and Joni Light (JL).

Agenda:

A meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the general meeting as per IWANE By-laws, Article II, Section 3. JL was recording the minutes. IWANE will be referred to as "The Club" henceforth. Topics of discussion included membership meeting and agenda review; under New Business topics included revised rescue policy, new memberships.

Membership Meeting:

JF stressed the need for an open and welcoming meeting to encourage healthy and honest communication. Additionally, AD will encourage all members that they may contact any officer for any issue. All board members agreed. CB specified that personal or ad hominem issues should not be made public on the IWANE Facebook page, and appropriate protocol should be followed.

EF suggested an announcement be made at the beginning of the show regarding safety of our hounds, specifically what to do in the case of "loose" dogs. The grounds are fenced, and gates will be closed, but with the ring being situated close to a busy roadway, safety is paramount.

JL will provide the names of candidates for judging for consideration to membership for a vote. As of this date not all biographies were submitted. EF said she would be sure to get in touch with Lynn Simon. EF further explained for background purposes that in the past there was a judge committee that sought out candidates and was responsible for providing biographies.

New Business:

AD discussed meeting protocol and stressed the need for proper etiquette. JM outlined her proposed treasurer's report to members, and that much of her report will need to be presented at the fall meeting by which time a full financial review would be possible.

AD brought up the IWANE website and the cost associated with it. New board members were informed that payment for hosting has historically been made to Pat Reilley on a monthly basis. Full details are currently unavailable but will be discussed in JM's full financial review. Board members were also informed by EF that the domain "IWANE.ORG" is in fact owned by Pat Reilley and not the club.

Discussion moved on to the Web-site Committee and ideas for content. Three members will be appointed to the committee with a liaison to the board. AD noted it is unclear if Pat Reilly will make herself available to chair this committee, but her knowledge and experience could prove invaluable. No edits or content changes will be made to the web-site without full approval of the board. The board committed to acting immediately upon requests for inclusion or deletion of pictures, events, etc. AD clarified that the delay in updating photographs and events on the site was not due to any lack of responsiveness or initiative from Pat Reilley, contrary to recent feedback. This is noted because of several member complaints received that requests to post photos have either been long delayed in posting, or not posted at all.

There was discussion concerning the addition of “PayPal” to the website, specifically for payment of dues or competition fees and it was agreed that further investigation and review is necessary. This is an action item for the website committee.

It was agreed that a Facebook page is a good idea to attract more interest in The Club, as well as to disseminate information to members on shows, meetings, and other events, and in sharing members’ pictures and stories. Moderation of discussions could raise concerns which will require investigation and review by administrators (to be determined). This site will be monitored, and it was agreed to have at least three administrators with a board liaison. This will be discussed with the membership at a subsequent meeting. AD suggested that Facebook and the website could be instrumental in bringing the club back together.

Previous discussion on fundraising and social events was revisited. Efforts to save money on meeting costs was discussed and suggested to be held at someone’s house or at local churches and libraries whereby non-profit organizations are often allowed to use at no cost.

Revised Rescue Policy:

From a financial perspective, JM informed the board that the funds for rescue have been completely depleted. Additionally, JM is in the process of transferring accounts to a national bank and will create a separate account for rescue. Until all financials are reviewed in full it will not be known how much The Club has for remaining bills on the Specialty, or for the operating account to make it through to the end of the calendar year. Insurance premiums still need to be made, and other costs that are not yet realized. Based on expenses from previous years for the Specialty, JM has concerns that if The Club inherits a new rescue all remaining operating funds could also be depleted. Additional efforts need to be made to support rescue, as well as The Club’s general fund. AD explained that there are plans in process to do fundraising by members.

AD expressed concern that there could be an increase in The Club’s insurance blanket forthcoming, or worse yet, The Club could potentially be dropped. It was confirmed that there has been a claim against it. EF confirmed that a claim was made to cover the previous president during the legal dispute this past year.

JM continued discussion of the proposed new rescue policy, and how it would flow through the IWCA. *See draft policy provided as Appendix A. JF cautioned the board concerning the IWCA process (as outlined in App A). JF reminded the board that the IWCA did not get involved in the situation over Donna Monahan’s hounds and her subsequent death. JM did confirm that additional discussions need to take place with the IWCA over the proposed rescue policy, but overall, there was support on their end.

Discussion continued onto the Hick’s Trust (Janney Fund), and how it supports rescue. JF had questions as to how much could be withdrawn annually. PC and EF confirmed that approximately \$15,000.00 had been withdrawn from the fund each year in the past. JM will be able to answer many questions once she has full financial disclosure, which will include the full Janney Fund script. As a 501(c)(3) it is paramount that the club keep accurate bookkeeping and JM intends to use Quickbooks to help. This will be a requirement moving forward and every future treasurer will need to know and understand this program. It will be included in the job descriptions that are being compiled for The Club and will be available on the revised web-site.

New Memberships:

There was one new membership to review. Clary Healy sponsored by JF was approved unanimously. JL will sent out her confirmation letter to welcome her into The Club.

AD brought up the reinstatement of Sherry Mayo as a regular member. A letter was received from her that clarifies her intent was to resign only her position on the board and not her membership. She provided previous email to the previous board back in August of 2018 explaining same. JL and AD reviewed Roberts Rules and it was determined that re-admissions can be made at any time “without prejudice”. AD called for a motion to re-admit Sherry Mayo as a regular member of IWANE. CD moved the motion; JL seconds. Motion passed, however it was not unanimous. (EF opposed).

Meeting Minutes:

Minutes from the July 9 Board Meeting were reviewed. PC moved the motion to approve the minutes as written. AD seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the board is anticipated to be held prior to The Club’s fall meeting, not yet scheduled.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.

Submitted and approved: November 9, 2019

Joni Light
IWANE Secretary